GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:301
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2002
BREAST CANCER
YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Breast Cancer on the rise in city` appearing in the Times of India dated October 24, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The breast cancer and cervical cancer are the common cancers in women in India. According to the data collected by the National Cancer Registry Programme (1981-2001) of the ICMR, Breast Cancer is the highest among all sites of cancers in females in Delhi with 21.3%. However, in Mumbai & Chennai it is higher with 24.7% and 26.9% respectively. The data from Population Based Cancer Registry at Delhi, functioning under the National Cancer Registry programme does not indicate any significant increase in the incidence of Breast Cancer from 1988-1997.

(c): Cancer can be cured if detected early. Under the National Cancer Control Programme this Ministry is implementing various schemes aimed at creating awareness among the people and for facilitating early detection, treatment and research activities. The details of these schemes may be seen at Annexure-I. This Ministry has recognized 19 Regional Cancer Centres in different States/UTs to render treatment and carry out Research Activities.

ANNEXURE - I

NATIONAL CANCER CONTROL PROGRAMME

Development of Oncology Wing

This scheme is available only for Government Medical Colleges to fill up the geographical gaps in the detection and treatment of cancer in the country. Financial assistance up to Rs.2.00 crores is provided to an Institute under the scheme for purchase of listed equipments. This is a one-time grant.

Setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit

Financial assistance upto Rs.1.50 crore is provided to State Government for setting up to Cobalt Therapy Unit in Government institutions. This is a one-time grant.

An amount of Rs.1.00 crore is also provided for Cobalt Therapy Unit to the Non-Government Organisations on the specific recommendations of the State Government. This is a one-time grant.

The Mammography equipment has also been included under the scheme for setting up of Cobalt.Therapy Unit. A Central assistance up to Rs. 30.00 lakhs is provided to those Institutions/Organisations who have the facilities for treatment of cancer patients and has well-equipped Radiotherapy Department. This is also a one-time grant.

District Cancer Control Programme

A scheme for district project (duration-five years) for health education, detection and plain relief measures under National Cancer Control Programme was initiated during the year 1990-91. In this scheme, financial assistance of Rs.15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Government/UT administration for each district selected under the scheme with a provision of Rs.10.00 lakhs per annum for each district for the remaining four years of the project period. After five years, the project is to be taken over by the State Government.

Voluntary Organisation Scheme

The scheme upto RS.5.00 lakhs is provided to the Voluntary Organisations for undertaking health education and early detection activities in cancer on the specific recommendations of the State Government.

Regional Cancer Centres

This Ministry has recognized 19 Regional Cancer Centres in different States/Uts.The Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (IRCH), AIIMS, New Delhi have got a different funding pattern.Remaining RCCs are paid an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakhs annually. These RCCs extend treatment facilities and conduct research in the field of Cancer.